

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-07 AGR-05 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

L-03 H-02 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 IO-10

PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06 /098 W
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R 141201Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6539

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 17552

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: AGDS DECONTROL AFTER 11/14/77

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: PRC VISIT TO IWC

SUMMARY: IN WIDE RANGING DISCUSSION WITH EXEC. SECY. OF IWC, PICKED UP FOLLOWING INFO. ON NOV. 12 PRC LONDON BASED REPS VISITED IWC SECRETARIAT. THEY ASKED EXEC. SECY. FOR INFO ON RUSSIAN GRAIN STOCKS AND HIS CURRENT ASSESSMENT OF MARKET CONDITIONS. EXEC. SECY. IN TURN QUESTIONED PRC REPS ABOUT THEIR GRAIN STOCKS AND PRODUCTION AND IF THEY WERE READY TO JOIN IWC AT THIS TIME.

1. PRC DELEGATION WAS VERY INTERESTED IN DATA ON USSR GRAIN STOCKS. EXEC. SECY. SAID THEY HAD NO RELIABLE INFO AND THAT SIZE OF STOCKS WAS CONSIDERED STRATEGIC INFORMATION.

2. EXEC. SECY. GAVE PRC REPS CURRENT STATUS OF MARKET CONDITIONS (SEE IWC DOCUMENT MR (75/76) 4).

3. EXEC. SECY. QUESTIONED PRC REPS ABOUT THEIR GRAIN
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PRODUCTION AND STOCKS. THEY WERE VERY EVASIVE. SAID

THEY NO LONGER KEPT SEPARATE STATISTICS ON PRODUCTION OF INDIVIDUAL GRAINS. ALSO SAID SIZE OF THEIR GRAIN STOCKS WAS CLASSIFIED INFO. WHEN EXEC. SECY. MENTIONED OFTEN QUOTED STOCK FIGURE OF 40 MILLION TONS, PRC REPS WOULD NOT REACT. THEY DID SAY THEY HAD A COHERENT THREE TIER STOCK SYSTEM: COMMUNE LEVEL, PROVINCIAL LEVEL AND NATIONAL LEVEL. THEY, HOWEVER, REFUSED TO ELABORATE.

4. WHEN EXEC SECY. QUESTIONED THEM ABOUT POSSIBLE TIMING OF JOINING IWC, PRC REPS WERE AGAIN EVASIVE. SAID THERE WERE SEVERAL THINGS ABOUT CURRENT AGREEMENT THAT THEY WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH. EXEC. SECY. OFFERED OFF THE CUFF OPINION THAT PRC HAD SHORTAGE OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL TO STAFF ALL THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THEY WERE NOW ELIGIBLE TO JOIN. EXEC. SECY. WOULD NOT EVEN HAZZARD A GUESS AS TO WHEN THEY MIGHT JOIN.

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TAGS: EAGR, CH, UR, IWC
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